

ALLEGATION OF USE OF RECORDING
DEVICE AT FOREIGN RELATIONS
COMMITTEE HEARING

Mr. FULBRIGHT. Mr. President, I wish to comment briefly on a statement made yesterday on the floor by the senior Senator from Oregon (Mr. Monrath) with regard to a charge made by a reporter of the Christian Science Monitor to the effect that the Senator from Oregon had hooked up his own wire recording device to take down his fairly frank and forthright exchange with Mr. Hartgering. I was present throughout the hearing on the nomination of Mr. Hartgering to be Secretary of State. I heard, I believe, every question the Senator from Oregon asked, and the responses made; and I observed the Senator from Oregon. I did not see there, and I do not believe there was in use there, any kind of recording device which the Senator from Oregon had with him or in or about him at the hearing.

I have also consulted with staff members, Mr. Hartgering and Mr. Holt, and Enquired of them whether they had observed any such recording device. They have confirmed my view and my opinion that there was no such device.

Therefore, the statement by the reporter was wholly inaccurate.

The Christian Science Monitor has a good reputation. Its reporters should know that all public hearings of the committee are covered by verbatim reporters as well as by representatives of the press, radio, and television. I do not know the techniques which the Radio Gallery uses in recording public sessions of the committee. Possibly they use tape recorders. But these recorders are simply part and parcel of press and radio coverage. Let me repeat as unequivocally and forcibly as I can that there is no evidence whatsoever that the Senator from Oregon used a tape recorder. The report appearing in the Christian Science Monitor can only be attributable to gross negligence on the part of the reporter or to a malicious attempt to attack the senior Senator from Oregon.